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Week of the Young Child – April 18-24, 2004

Celebrates Young Children in Shasta County

April 14, 2004 (Redding)-----First 5 Shasta, *the Shasta Children and Families First Commission*, and the California Cascade Association for the Education of Young Children (CCA EYC) have joined forces to orchestrate a countywide celebration of the “*Week of the Young Child*.” From April 18-24, the Week of the Young Child presents an opportunity to increase focus on young children, our most vital and precious assets. This year, more local sponsors and supporters than ever before have united to offer quality WOYC events and activities for families, professionals and children. Nearly all WOYC activities are free.

Local WOYC activities are featured on a calendar that may be picked up at county and community libraries. It is available online at www.shastacapc.org/weekoftheyoungchild.htm. Some of the WOYC events include:

- *A Family Concert* - April 18, 1-4 p.m. at McLaughlin Auditorium (Sequoia Middle School, Redding)
- *Our Place in Space Preschool Show* - April 22, 9:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Schreder Planetarium
- *Caring for the Caregivers Conference* – April 23-24 at Holiday Inn (Redding). Featuring April 23rd keynote speaker, *Dr. Kyle Pruett, Yale University*, “The Power of Early Experience on the Development of Children and Those Who Raise Them.”

The Week of the Young Child (WOYC) was established in 1971 by the National Association for the Education of Young Children to honor children from birth to age eight. Muffy Berryhill, executive director of First 5 Shasta, says "The Week of the Young Child provides families, agencies, community groups, and individuals with an opportunity to focus on the critical role we each play in the healthy development and successful education of children. The more we invest in our children – with our time, our resources and in forming positive relationships, the more we are investing in the future of Shasta County.”

For more information about Shasta County’s Week of the Young Child celebration, call Debbie Peel at 530-229-8300.